STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES STATE LANDS DIVISION COASTAL SECTION



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October 3, 2002

Mr. David Kaiser
Federal Consistency Coordinator
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
1305 East-West Highway
11th Floor (N/ORM3)
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear David

I am writing to you concerning the Advanced Notice on Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) to evaluate whether limited and specific changes or guidance to the existing Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Federal Consistency Regulations are needed.

In the State of Alabama, over the last twelve years that I have been in involved with the program, I know of no problems that have existed with the consistency regulations. In fact, this process has been very successful and has provided the State of Alabama with an important tool in the CZM process. In my opinion, no changes to this process are needed at his time, due to the fact that the latest revisions to the consistency regulations took place less than two years ago. I do not believe that a sufficient interval of time has passed, since the last revisions, to determine if changes are needed. In addition, I believe that problems with the Federal Consistency Regulations have occurred in a few states and on a very limited basis.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this process and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Phillip Hinesley

Coastal Section Chief

Cc:

Kerry Kehoe Brad Gane